



State of New Jersey
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September 19, 2002

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW, Room TW-A325
Washington, DC 20554

Re: New Jersey TRS State Certification Application

Dear Secretary Dortch:

On August 28, 1991, and again on February 6, 1997 the Board of Public Utilities (BPU) of the State of New Jersey selected the American Telephone and Telegraph Company (AT&T) to provide statewide Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS) in New Jersey. Recently, by Order dated June 20, 2002, AT&T was once again selected to be this state's TRS provider. AT&T will provide TRS service until at least August 1, 2005, when the initial period of the current contract ends. The current contract also calls for up to two (2) one year contract extensions after August 1, 2005, if agreed to by both AT&T and the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities.

Section 225 (f) of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) as codified at 47 C.F.R. §§64.601-605, requires that a state choosing to establish a TRS program provide documentation to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) describing the program for implementing intrastate TRS and the procedures and remedies available for enforcing any requirements imposed by the state program. The ADA also provides that the FCC shall certify the state program, if it determines that the program makes TRS available to individuals with hearing or speech disabilities in a manner that meets or exceeds the requirements of regulations prescribed by the FCC in its rules as codified at 47 C.F.R. §§64.601-605.

More specifically, the rules, as contained in §64.605, provide that state certification will be granted, if documentation establishes that:

- 1) The state program meets or exceeds all operational, technical, and functional minimum standards contained in §64.604;